

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BRASIL 04660 141738Z
ACTION ARA-14

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FM AMEMBASSY BRASILIA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7881
INFO USICA WASHDC

UNCLAS BRASILIA 4660

USICA FOR AR, PGM/RC

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: SOPN, BR
SUBJECT: AMBASSADOR SAYRE'S PRESS CONFERENCE

1. AMBASSADOR SAYRE'S JUNE EIGHT PRESS CONFERENCE RECEIVED SUBSTANTIAL, FAVORABLE NEWS MEDIA PLAY. REPORTS ON THE CONFERENCE WERE HIGHLIGHTED JUNE 9 BY ALL LEADING PAPERS IN BRAZIL, CARRIED BY BRAZILIAN AND US WIRE SERVICES, AND INCLUDED IN BRAZILIAN RADIO AND TV BROADCASTS. THESE REPORTS SHOW THAT THE MEDIA REACTED FAVORABLY TO THE AMBASSADOR'S STATEMENTS AND NOTED BOTH HIS "CAUTION" IN FIELDING QUESTIONS AND HIS FULL, CLEAR ANSWERS. WHILE THE ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS CONCERNING FRED BERGSTEN'S SPEECH OF MAY 9, THE PURPOSE OF GERARD SMITH'S VISIT, HUMAN RIGHTS AND OTHER TOPICS WERE GENERALLY REPORTED FACTUALLY, AMBASSADOR SAYRE'S STATEMENT THAT THE US IS "PREPARED TO CONSIDER ANY PROPOSALS (REGARDING MILITARY MATTERS), JUST AS IT IS PREPARED TO CONSIDER PROPOSALS IN ANY OTHER FIELD," WAS OVEREMPHASIZED IN REPORTS, AND TURNED AROUND IN SEVERAL COMMENTARIES WHICH STATED OR IMPLIED THAT THE US WAS SOLICITING PROPOSALS FROM BRAZIL.

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2. ARTICLE IN O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO JUNE 10 SAYS PRESS CONFERENCE IMPRESSED GOB FAVORABLY. HEADLINED "US AMBASSADOR'S STATEMENTS WELCOMED," ARTICLE SAYS: "SOURCES AT PLANALTO PALACE AND ITAMARATY CONSIDER STATEMENTS MADE BY NEW US AMBASSADOR AS 'PRUDENT AND ENCOURAGING;' AND HOPE HIS WORDS WILL BE CONFIRMED BY FACTS. ... OPINION OF

TOP GOB OFFICIALS IS THAT SAYRE 'HAS MADE A GOOD START.'"
O ESTADO'S SISTER AFTERNOONER JORNAL DA TARDE JUNE 10
CARRIES ESSENTIALLY SAME STORY, UNDER HEADLINE "GOB
PLEASED BY SAYRE PRESS CONFERENCE."

3. PRO-GOB- O-GLOBO JUNE 10 FRONT-PAGE EDITORIAL SAYS
AMBASSADOR SAYRE BEGINS HIS MISSION AT A MOMENT WHEN
RELATIONS BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES HAVE REACHED THEIR
BEST LEVEL SINCE THE BEGINNING OF THE CARTER ADMIN-
ISTRATION, BECAUSE THE CARTER VISIT PAVED THE WAY FOR
SAYRE'S MISSION. EDITORIAL SAYS THAT SINCE HIS ARRIVAL
"SAYRE HAS ADOPTED AN IMPECCABLE CAUTION IN STATEMENTS
ABOUT HIS MISSION, SHOWING LOYALTY TO THE POSITIONS OF
THE CARTER ADMINISTRATION, WITHOUT EVER SHOWING LACK OF
RESPECT FOR THE STANDS THE GOB HAS TAKEN ON CONTRO-
VERSIAL ISSUES IN THE BILATERAL RELATIONSHIP. ..."

4. O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO JUNE 10 EDITORIAL, HEADLINED
"PRESS CONFERENCE REAFFIRMS TRADITIONAL FRIENDSHIP,"
SAYS "AMBASSADOR SAYRE'S FIRST PRESS CONFERENCE...
CONFIRMS THAT GOOD RELATIONS BETWEEN THE HEMISPHERE'S
TWO GREATEST NATIONS HAVE BEEN REESTABLISHED IN THE WAKE
OF THE CARTER VISIT; ALSO THAT THERE IS NO REASON TO
BELIEVE THAT CONFLICTS OF MAJOR IMPORTANCE WILL ARISE
TO UPSET RELATION AGAIN IN THE NEAR FUTURE." EDITORIAL,
EMPHASIZING STATEMENT ON MILITARY COOPERATION, SAYS
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SAYRE'S MISSION IS TO SEEK TO IMPROVE RELATIONS BETWEEN
TWO COUNTRIES, "REESTABLISHING MILITARY COOPERATION. ..."

5. FOLHA DE SAO PAULO JUNE 10 EDITORIAL EMPHASIZES
AMBASSADOR SAYRE SAID US IS READY TO ACCEPT BRAZILIAN
PROPOSALS IN THE MILITARY AREA; PAPER SAYS BRAZIL'S
NOTICE OF TERMINATION OF MILITARY AGREEMENTS WITH US."...
AFFECTED ARE OF MILITARY COOPERATION AND INTERNATIONAL
SECURITY OF THE TWO COUNTRIES, AND CREATED A PROBLEM FOR
ANTI-COMMUNIST DIPLOMACY AND SECURITY. ..." FOLHA GOES ON
TO SAY THAT WHAT IT CALLS SAYRE'S "INITIATIVE" INDICATES
THAT "WASHINGTON MILITARY AUTHORITIES BELIEVE BRAZIL
HAS A CLEAR RESPONSIBILITY IN FACE OF POSSIBLE NEGATIVE
DEVELOPMENTS IN AFRICA. ..."

6. TRANSCRIPT OF PRESS CONFERENCE SENT BY POUCH JUNE 12
TO ARA/ECA AND TO USICA.
SAYRE

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 14 jun 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
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Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
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Review Release Event: n/a
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Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: AMBASSADOR SAYRE'S PRESS CONFERENCE
TAGS: SOPN, BR, (SAYRE, ROBERT MARION)
To: STATE
Type: TE
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